







STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# ANNUAL REPORT

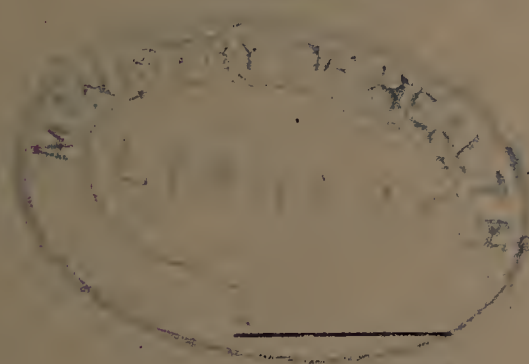
of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

THE SENIOR SANITARY

INSPECTOR



1950



# STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

of the

## STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district during the year ending 31st December, 1950. The care of the public health was in charge of Dr. A. C. Mann until 31st March, 1950; he had been Medical Officer of Health for the district since January, 1921. Dr. K. O. A. Vickery succeeded him and was in office almost until the end of the year (12th December, 1950).

This report follows the general form used by my predecessors except in the classification of causes of death which follows the statistical classification of the Registrar General.

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area—8,250 acres, including 405 acres of water.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	...	40,150
Number of Inhabited Houses	... ..	10,505
Rateable Value	... ..	£385,261
Sum represented by a penny rate	... ..	£1,487

### SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

#### Live Births

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	335	309	644
Illegitimate	...	18	12	30
		<hr/> 353	<hr/> 321	<hr/> 674

Birth Rate (per thousand population)	...	...	16.79
Birth Rate England and Wales	...	...	15.8

#### Still Births

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	14	11	25
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
<b>Still Birth Rate</b> (per thousand population)			...	0.623
Still Birth Rate England and Wales	...		...	0.37



## Deaths

Male	...	223
Female	...	197
		<hr/>
		420
		<hr/>

Death Rate (per thousand population)	...	...	10.46
Death Rate England and Wales	...	...	11.6
Death Rate Staines U.D.C., 1949	...	...	9.85
Death from Maternal Causes	...	...	1
Infant Deaths under one year	...	...	23
Infant Mortality Rate under one year	...	...	34.1
(per thousand live births)			
Infant Mortality Rate England and Wales	...	...	29.8

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA DURING 1950

### Medical Officer of Health (part time) :

A. C. MANN, M.C., M.B., CH.B. (resigned 31.3.50)  
K. O. A. VICKERY, M.D., D.P.H. (resigned 11.12.50)  
L. A. MATHESON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.,  
M.M.S.A.

### Senior Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN MULLIN, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.I.H.sg.

### Sanitary Inspectors :

G. O. AXON, M.S.I.A.  
J. K. EDSON, M.S.I.A.  
G. A. EVANS, M.S.I.A.

### Senior Clerk and Shorthand Typist :

Miss L. M. PERRYMAN

### Junior Clerk and Shorthand Typist :

Miss J. E. LOCKYER

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water

There was no change in the water supply to the Area during the year. The majority of properties are supplied from the mains of the South West Suburban Water Company, but a few houses in Laleham Ward are supplied by the West Surrey Water Company, and part of the Colnbrook Area by the Borough of Slough Water Company.

The water supply is adequate in quantity and regular bacteriological examinations are made of the raw water—at the Works of the South West Suburban Water Company this is taken from the river Thames—and of the water going into supply, and I am informed that an average of 70 bacteriological examinations are made annually, and that these have all been satisfactory. In addition check samples of all the supplies are taken by the Sanitary Inspector and these also have been satisfactory.

The waters have no plumbo-solvent action and no action was necessary in respect of any contamination of main supplies. All dwelling houses have a supply from the public mains direct to the house with the exception of 40 houses occupied by 160 persons which are supplied from standpipes.

The following is a report on a sample submitted for chemical analysis :—

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.) ...	36.0	25.2
Combined chlorine (Cl) ...	2.7	1.9
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl) ...	4.5	3.1
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates) ...	0.60	0.42
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites) ...	faint trace	present
Ammoniacal nitrogen ...	0.0078	0.0055
Albuminoid nitrogen ...	0.0124	0.0087
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C. ...	0.120	0.084
Lead or Copper ...	nil	nil
Temporary hardness (equiv. to CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) ...	22.0	15.4
Permanent hardness ( „ „ ) ...	5.0	3.5
Total hardness ( „ „ ) ...	27.0	18.9

### Drainage and Sewage

Sewage is treated at the West Middlesex Drainage Area Works at Mogden.

There is still a number of houses drained to cesspools in spite of the fact that in many cases there are sewers provided. 38 cesspools and 16 pail closets were abolished during the year.

### Smoke Abatement

The domestic fire-place is the principal contributor to atmospheric pollution in this area since there are only three factory stacks which have caused occasional nuisance. A great deal could be done to reduce pollution by the use of smokeless fuel in fire-places of existing houses and the installation of smoke reducing appliances in new houses, and I am glad to note improved types of grates are now being installed in new Council houses.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

A chart showing the diseases notified in their age groups is appended.

### TUBERCULOSIS

Thirty-nine cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year, and 14 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis died during the year. A chart showing the age and sex distribution of the notifications and deaths is appended.

### FOOD POISONING

No outbreak of food poisoning occurred during 1950, only one case being notified.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

No formal action under this section was taken during the year.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50

Three burials of persons for whom no other arrangements were being made were carried out under Section 50 of the Act.

I attach a list showing the causes of death in the area during the year, and also an analysis of infant deaths.

I have the honour to be, ladies and gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

L.A. MATHESON.

### CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease.	Male.	Female.
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	9	5
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	Nil	Nil
Syphilitic disease ... ..	3	1
Diphtheria ... ..	Nil	Nil
Whooping cough ... ..	Nil	Nil
Meningococcal infections ... ..	Nil	Nil
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	Nil	Nil
Measles ... ..	1	Nil
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	Nil	Nil
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	14	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	Nil	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	Nil	4



Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	19	21
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	Nil	Nil
Diabetes ...	3	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system...	24	28
Coronary disease, angina ...	38	16
Hypertension with heart disease ...	8	5
Other heart disease ...	19	36
Other circulatory disease ...	14	12
Influenza ...	4	2
Pneumonia ...	4	10
Bronchitis ...	10	7
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	5	Nil
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	Nil	5
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	6	0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	Nil	1
Congenital malformations ...	4	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	18	20
Motor vehicle accidents ...	10	2
All other accidents ...	4	4
Suicide ...	Nil	1
Homicide and operations of war ...	Nil	Nil
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	223 .	197
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# INFANT DEATHS

	Under 1 day		1-6 days		1 week		2 weeks		3 weeks	Total under 1 month		1-2 months		3-5 months		6-8 months		9-11 months		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Prematurity	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
Congenital Abnormality	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Pneumonia with Otitis media	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Primary Pneumococcal meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Cerebral haemorrhage	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	5	1	2	—	—	1	2	1	—	9	3	5	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	15	6

# DISEASES NOTIFIED

Age Group	0-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75-85	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	9	26	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	37
Whooping Cough	13	26	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70
Pneumonia	—	1	1	2	—	3	—	1	—	—	8
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Measles	31	128	166	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	328
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1





# FACTORIES ACT, 1937

## Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

(Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written notices	Occupier prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s ...	18	1	—	—
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. ...	180	208	7	—
3. Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	2	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	200	209	7	—
	—	—	—	—

## CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prose- cutions were Instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inad. Vent'n. (S.4) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffect. drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) insufficient ...	19	13	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	5	1	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	1	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	30	19	2	1	—
	—	—	—	—	—

### Outworkers :

There are 13 out-workers in the Area.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1950

## Summary of Housing and Sanitary Inspections

### Housing :

Housing Act, 1936, section 9 :—

Inspections	...	...	...	...	8
Reinspections	...	...	...	...	29

Public Health Act, 1936 :—

Inspections	...	...	...	...	953
Reinspections	...	...	...	...	1705
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	12
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	233

2940

### General :

Massage and Chiropody Premises	...	...	...	...	14
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	175
Drainage Works	...	...	...	...	523
Drain Testing	...	...	...	...	136
Factories	...	...	...	...	209
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	28
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	217
Vermin	...	...	...	...	38
Keeping of Animals and Poultry	...	...	...	...	65
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	48
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	116
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	968
Caravans	...	...	...	...	161
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	24
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	35
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	63
Hawkers	...	...	...	...	24
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	12
Schools	...	...	...	...	3
River Pollution	...	...	...	...	9
Refuse Deposits	...	...	...	...	55
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	26
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	33

2982

5922



**Number of Notices Served :—**

			Informal	Formal
Housing Act, 1936, section 9	...	...	1	3
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	244	74
Shops Acts, 1912—1936	...	...	—	—
Food & Drugs Act, 1938	..	...	45	—
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			290	77
			<hr/>	<hr/>

**WORKS COMPLETED—Nuisances abated, etc. :—**

Dampness remedied	...	...	...	50
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	85
Floors repaired	...	...	...	46
Walls repaired	...	...	...	93
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	32
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	70
General internal repairs	...	...	...	17
General external repairs	...	...	...	14
Cesspools cleansed (Statutory Notice)	...	...	...	7
Rainwater gutters and pipes	...	...	...	50
Chimneys overhauled	...	...	...	10
Yard paving repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
Fire grates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	25
Verminous premises cleansed	...	...	...	8
Other premises cleansed	...	...	...	2
Domestic chimneys—nuisance abated	...	...	...	10
Drains—new, repaired, cleared, etc.	...	...	...	29
W.C. and fittings repaired or renewed...	...	...	...	55
New sinks	...	...	...	3
Waste pipes, new or repaired...	...	...	...	5
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	23
				<hr/>
				676
				<hr/>

**Shop Act :—**

Form and notices provided	...	...	...	8
Means of heating provided	...	...	...	2
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	2
Washing facilities improved	...	...	...	3
Sanitary accommodation provided	...	...	...	3
Sanitary accommodation cleansed or improved...	...	...	...	1
Seats provided	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2

## Food Premises :

			Kitchens	Other food premises
Premises cleansed	...	...	2	3
Ventilation provided	...	...	—	1
Water supply provided	...	...	—	3
Hot water supply provided...	...	...	—	7
Floors and walls cleansed	...	...	8	20
Lighting improved	...	...	—	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	—	4

## Complaints :

507 complaints were received during the year, all were investigated and any necessary action taken.

## HOUSING STATISTICS

### 1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	961
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose				2695
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...		—
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose				—
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	—
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	356

### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	207
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners ... ..	3
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ... ..	—

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	74
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ... ..	70
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ... ..	4

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	—

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... ..	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	—



## HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING

In view of the changes and increase in the population since 1939, a new survey would be necessary to give the number of houses overcrowded according to the low standard of the Housing Act. It is, I think, safe to say that the majority of the overcrowded families are on the waiting list for Council houses and this list shows there are 69 families totalling 376 persons living in statutorily overcrowded conditions. The Council's system of allocation gives additional pointing to such cases but there is a difficulty in that a family moving into the district usually has to take what accommodation they can find ; often they are overcrowded but such families cannot be given priority over those who have been waiting their turn for Council accommodation.

It was possible to help a few overcrowded families living in small flats or houses where the owner co-operated by accepting a small family such as a childless couple from the waiting list in return for the Council rehousing a larger overcrowded family.

Fourteen statutorily overcrowded families were rehoused by the Council during the year.

## FOOD INSPECTION DURING 1950

The following foods were surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

Tins	... 1394	Dates	... 5 lbs.
Canned meat	... 235 lbs.	Figs	... 34 lbs.
Cooked meats	... 60 lbs.	Prunes	... 60 lbs.
Boiled Ham	... 17 lbs.	Cereals	... 79 pkts.
Rabbit	... 482 lbs.		3 lbs.
Meat	... 932 lbs.	Pearl Barley	... 123 lbs.
Pig	... 1	Flour	... 21 pkts.
Bacon	... 18 lbs.		66 lbs.
Sweetbread	... 22 lbs.	Ryvita	... 18 pkts.
Turkey	... 9 lbs.	Crispbread	... 7 lbs.
Chicken	... 26 lbs.	Biscuits	... 42 lbs.
Eggs	... 1365	Cake	... 28 lbs.
Cooking fat	... 83 lbs.	Cake mixture...	44 pkts.
Margarine	... 283 lbs.	Xmas pudding	211
Butter	... 210 lbs.	Sweets	... 4 lbs.
Cheese	... 168 lbs.	Chocolate	... 22 lbs.
	34 pkts.	Jams	... 1 lb.
Fish	... 35 stone	Tea	... 34 lbs.
Sausages	... 67 lbs.	Pickles	... 20 botts.
Jelly Crystals	... 7 pkts.		

## CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The number of inspections of food premises shows the effort being made to raise the standard of food handling. The Council adopted the Model Food Byelaws during the year and a copy was sent to every food trader with an explanatory letter and an invitation to traders and their staff to attend a talk on this subject. 275 invitations were sent out and traders were informed meetings would be held during the day or evening at their convenience.

The result was a little disappointing, 55 persons attended a show of food hygiene films followed by a talk and discussion. In addition talks were given to various sections of food traders and to other organisations and to one school.

In my opinion the best method of dealing with this problem is by continued visiting by the sanitary officers, by persuasion, advice, and education and, where necessary, by enforcing the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Food Byelaws.

The standard of cleanliness is still not as high as it should be but I can say there is an improvement. Food traders have their difficulties, among them the high cost and shortage of wrapping and greaseproof paper and the high cost of improvements, and they also continued to experience difficulty in obtaining building licences to carry out extensions and improvements. Some cafe kitchens and food preparing rooms are too small for proper working and desirable improvements are impracticable, but traders are always advised that it is the will to be clean that matters and a knowledge of the simple measures necessary for hygienic food handling is more important than the most elaborate equipment.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT

There are no slaughter-houses in operation in the area since killing was centralised by the Ministry of Food in 1940, but 2 slaughter-houses are used occasionally for the killing of self suppliers pigs under Ministry of Food permits. 23 pigs killed under permits were inspected, no part of the carcasses or organs was unfit for food. 932 lbs. of fresh meat was condemned in butchers' shops mainly due to bone taint.

### Transport of Meat

It was necessary to take up with the Meat Transport Organisation of the Ministry of Food the question of complaints of the condition of meat vans and dirty meat.

The vehicles used for meat transport from Ministry of Food slaughter-houses in London to the retailers' shops are not designed to allow fresh meat to be hung and meat would arrive cleaner and have a better appearance if it could be hung and not stacked in the vans. This, of course, would require new vehicles and I understand these cannot be provided under present conditions.

## INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

				No. of Inspections
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	18
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	101
Bakehouses	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	223
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	116
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	498
				<hr/> 968 <hr/>

## MILK AND DAIRIES' REGULATIONS

The milk supply continues to be mainly in the hands of three large firms and almost all of it is heat treated. The changes in Milk and Dairies legislation and the transfer of supervision of milk production and inspection of cowsheds to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has in fact resulted in little inspection of cowsheds now being made in this area.

There is also a curious division of duties between the County Council as the Food & Drugs Authority for the whole County and the County Districts; for example, the County Council is responsible for the licensing and inspection of a pasteurising plant in a dairy while the sanitary officer of the district inspects the same dairy under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, for such matters as cleanliness and condition of walls, floors, etc. Two officers are, therefore, visiting the same premises. This is wasteful of manpower and is quite unnecessary when the County District has qualified inspectors who could deal with the pasteurising plant at the same time as visits are made under the regulations.

Eleven samples of pasteurised milk were taken from the retailers. All the samples satisfied the methylene blue test and ten samples the phosphatase test.

Four samples of ungraded milk were taken. Two samples satisfied the methylene blue test and 2 failed.



## ICE-CREAM (Heat Treatment) REGULATIONS

The conditions under which ice-cream was manufactured, stored and served continued to receive attention. Most of the ice-cream is made by nationally known firms, there being only 5 retailers making their own ice-cream. There are now 81 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, 16 new premises were registered during 1950.

An explanation of the legislation affecting ice-cream was given to all those registered.

166 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted to the Area Public Health Laboratory for examination by the Methylene Blue Test. The results are given below and previous years are given for comparison :

		Nos. of samples	% placed in Grades 1 or 2	% placed in Grades 3 or 4
1947	...	51	56.9	43.1
1948	...	120	76.7	23.3
1949	...	150	80.7	19.3
1950	...	166	83.5	16.5

It will be seen from these figures that there has been a steady improvement in the hygienic quality of ice cream since 1947.

The grading is according to the standard recommendation by the Ministry of Health, the methylene blue test being an indication of the bacteriological cleanliness. Ice-cream manufactured and served under hygienic conditions should fall into Grades 1 or 2 and good makers have no difficulty in maintaining this standard.

## RODENT CONTROL

The following is a summary of the inspections, etc., carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator. The majority of the infestations dealt with are due to domestic poultry keeping or to pig keeping.

No. of complaints dealt with	...	...	...	470
No. of business premises treated	...	...	...	48
No. of dwelling houses treated	...	...	...	421
Premises found infested with rats	...	...	...	371
Premises found infested with mice	...	...	...	99

As in former years, the annual test baiting of the Council's sewers showed that they were almost free from rat infestation.

Smithfield Animal Products Factory at Stanwell, is, by the nature of the work carried on, always liable to be a source of major infestation, but a member of the firm's staff is trained to deal with rats and other pests and regular routine treatment has kept infestation to a minimum.

